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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
MARY FRANCES REPKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

June 12, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Room 320, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Room 221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

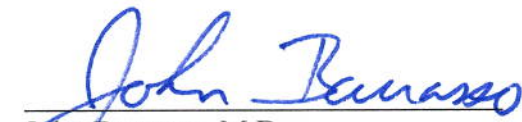
We are writing to you to request that you address a significant issue facing our nation's infrastructure and economic security.


We are making progress on a bipartisan highway bill. We plan to report the bill out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee this summer. Working together, we believe we can pass a landmark reauthorization that funds our collective priorities and protects our communities.

One issue that needs to be addressed before our highway infrastructure bill is likely to be signed into law is Section 1438 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act; P.L. 114-94). The provision rescinds \$7.6 billion in Federal-aid Highway Program contract authority on July 1, 2020. It is critical that this rescission be repealed in any future budget or spending agreement that the Congress considers before the end of this fiscal year. If it stands, this rescission will impact every state's ability to plan, build and repair needed roads and bridges that are vital to American communities. Failure to address this rescission will cost jobs and needlessly slow our economy.

Your favorable consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


John Barrasso, M.D.
Chairman


Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member